

Amendments to the CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for switching between the command-mode and text-mode of operation in a voice-recognition system, ~~comprising the step of the method~~ comprising:

operating the voice-recognition application in one of a command mode or a text-mode, wherein the command-mode is used to issue commands ~~for anyone of a plurality of applications that that~~ are executable on a computer on which the voice-recognition system resides, and wherein the text-mode is used to insert text into a software application that is in use using the voice-recognition system;

detecting a ~~position-change~~ in a switching device; and

in response to detecting the ~~position-change~~, operating the voice recognition application in the other of the command mode or the text mode; and

wherein, after detecting the voice-recognition application as being in the command mode, ~~when the voice-recognition application is in the command mode,~~ the method further comprises;

~~-recognizing a one or more voice inputs by entered by a user as a one or more command for an application that is identified from the voice input;~~

sequentially operating one or more of (i) multiple computers, (ii) multiple appliances, (iii) multiple devices, or (iv) multiple applications using the one or more commands, ~~and that is different than an application in use with the voice-recognition application in the text mode.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for switching between the command-mode and text-mode of operation in voice-recognition systems, wherein the apparatus is provided with a computer having on which a voice-recognition system executes, and wherein the apparatus comprises:

a switch having at least two positions, including a first position for using the voice-recognition system in a command-mode of operation and a second position for using the voice-recognition system in a text-mode of operation, wherein the voice-

recognition application in the command-mode is used to sequentially issue commands, from the computer on which the voice-recognition system executes, to any one of two or more (i) computers, (ii) appliances, (iii) devices, or (iv) applications operated on the computer, and wherein the voice-recognition system in the text-mode is used to insert text into at least one of the two applicationsan application that is in use.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the apparatus further comprises a microphone that enables the voice-recognition system to receive spoken commands and spoken text, wherein the microphone is configured to be switched on only when the switch is positioned for the voice-recognition system to be in either in the command-mode or the text mode.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the switch is a mechanical switch moveable between the first position and the second position.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the switch is a spring-controlled slide switch.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein the spring-controlled slide switch has a first operating position at which the microphone is turned off, a second operating position at which the microphone is turned on in the command-mode, and a third operating position at which the microphone is turned on in the text-mode.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein the first position is a default position such that when a user slides the switch from the first position to the second position and then releases the switch, the switch returns to the first position, and when the user slides the switch from the first position to the third position and then releases the switch, the switch returns to the first position.

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Claim 9: (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, further comprising at least one button that is moveable between the first position and the second position in order to switch between the command-mode and the text-mode.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the apparatus further comprises a computer mouse for enabling a user to operate the switch.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the apparatus further comprises a microphone on which the switch is provided.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the apparatus combines the functionality of both a microphone and a mouse/cursor control device in enabling the user to use the voice-recognition system and to operate the switch.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the apparatus further comprises a wireless device for enabling the user to operate the switch.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the apparatus comprises a cable for enabling the user to operate the switch.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein a portion of the apparatus operates using an infrared frequency that indicates whether the switch has moved between the first position and the second position.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein a portion of the apparatus operates at a radio frequency.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A system for switching between the command-mode and text-mode of operation in voice-recognition systems, wherein the system is provided on a computer having a microphone coupled to it to receive voice input from a user, wherein the system comprises:

a voice-recognition software executable on the computer system, wherein the voice-recognition software is configured to enable the user to switch between a command-mode of operation and a text-mode of operation, wherein the voice-recognition software is operable in the command-mode to process voice input as commands and to sequentially issue commands interpreted from the voice inputs, from the computer on which the voice-recognition system executes, to any one of two or more (i) computers, (ii) appliances, (iii) devices, or (iv) applications residing on that computer that are issued to the computer, and wherein the voice-recognition software is operable in the text-mode to process voice input as text for a software application ; and

wherein the voice-recognition software includes a software-executable switch that is manually operable by the user to switch the voice-recognition software between the command-mode and the text-mode.

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Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The system according to Claim 17, wherein when the voice-recognition software (i) is in the command-mode and (ii) is unable to understand a spoken command, the voice-recognition software prompts the user to select an intended command from a plurality of commands, and wherein the voice-recognition software displays at least some of the plurality of commands to aid the user in selecting the intended command.

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Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The system according to Claim 17, wherein voice-recognition software is configured to detect the user speaking the intended command in response to the intended command being displayed as one of the plurality of commands that are displayed.